

North Dakota Educational Technology Council Meeting

November 8, 2004

10:00-3:00 PM

**EduTech Training Room, Regional Technology Center,
Valley City**

Kevin Keenaghan, Vice-chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM

<i>Members present:</i>	Grant Crawford	Tom Cummings	Tom Eberle
	Chris Kalash	Jon Kringen	Wayne Kutzer
	Bev Nielson	Wayne Sanstead	
<i>Members absent:</i>	Lisa Feldner	Shawneen Voiles	Curt Wolfe
<i>Staff present:</i>	Dan Pullen	Jody French	Neil Howe
	Deborah Janzen		
<i>Guests present:</i>	Greg Gallagher – DPI	John Fleisher- TetraData	John Gieser - EduTech
Tim Kadrmas - EduTech	Pauline Bjornson-DPI	Tanna Kincaid-TWT	Jeff Schoenack – EduTech

Approval of Agenda

Wayne Kutzer will present the Imagine ND program during the Council and Staff Reports section.

Dan Pullen will show Japan slides during lunch.

Consent Agenda

Bev Nielson moved to approve the consent agenda. Jon Kringen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Recognition activities

Kevin Keenaghan congratulated Wayne Sanstead on his re-election to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction post.

Bismarck Public Schools' web site was named one of the nation's ten best schools web sites by a company called "Want to teach .com."

Old Business

TetraData – Greg Gallagher, DPI, and John Fleisher, TetraData, enlighten the ETC members of the current status and future direction of the TetraData program in North Dakota.

North Dakota educational leaders concerns are:

- program cost
- training opportunities
- availability of current data
- value to the school

These concerns were addressed by Greg and John

- cost is met with federal funds in the form of Title VI monies. It is currently believed that federal funding will continue to pay for the project for at least two years. The cost is approximately \$4.50 for license fees and \$.80 for roll out fees per student. Schools would pay these fees only as the last resort.
- Training is available through TetraData. School leaders can contact Jeff Schoenack as a first contact for training requests. The optimum situation would be to have 10-15 trainees at a site.
- Data is loaded twice a year. One load is after the ADM information is available around the end of October. The second data load is done during February. TetraData can negotiate individual data loads if necessary.
- The value to the school comes particularly in accessing and tracking student achievement. TetraData is able to present longitudinal data and to compare equal results. The program is flexible in finding data that school leaders feel are really important.

Department of Public Instruction has contracted with EduTech to provide support. Jeff Schoenack is the employee assigned to this responsibility.

TetraData is not currently available to non-public schools. It is a future possibility, but non-public schools would contract with TetraData individually.

New Business

The National Science Foundation has awarded \$374,440 to partners: Bismarck Public Schools, Valley City State University, ND Career and Technology Education and Bismarck State College to develop a model for a standards based technology education curriculum for practicing and forthcoming technology education teachers. Tanna Kincaid is the project director. The award is effective from August 1, 2004 through February 28, 2007.

EduTech tour

Tim Kadrmas, EduTech, led the tour of the Regional Technology Center. Don Muga, Director of the Technology Education Department of Valley City State University, exhibited the technology education facility in the RTC.

Policy Reviews

Kevin Keenaghan, Vice-chair, stated that the policies on the agenda would be discussed individually, and reaffirming or updating would be approved as a group.

- EL-1 Global Executive Constraint - No changes were suggested to this policy.
- EL-2 Emergency Director Succession - No changes were suggested to this policy
- EL-3 Treatment of the Public - No changes were suggested to this policy
- EL-4 Staff Treatment - No changes were suggested to this policy
- EL-5 Staff Compensation - No changes were suggested to this policy
- EL-6 Staff Evaluation - No changes were suggested to this policy

Jon Kringen moved to indicate that Executive Limitations Policy numbers 1 through 6 are in compliance and affirm the policies as written. Tom Eberle seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Council, Staff and Other Reports

NDSBA – Bev Nielson reported on the issues of the school board association in relation to the ETC. She thanked the ETC for the assistance to schools on writing the school technology plans. The NCLB, data collection and reporting continue to be concerns.

The Fargo schools requested assistance from the NDSBA concerning legislation to require the state to fund maintenance and upgrading/replacing equipment needed to be connected on the state network.

NDCEL – Kevin Keenaghan presented the comments of the NDCEL board members. The members of the NDCEL believe that they are kept informed on ETC activities. The following suggestions were made:

- Inform the schools of the legislative strategies the ETC is planning to present this session of the legislature.
- There is a strong concern that lack of federal E-rate funding would fall back to local schools. That would mean spending a great deal more money than they had planned to spend. No one is for abandoning the ITD state backbone system but federal-state support needs to continue.
- The regional technologist positions need to support the schools to implement curriculum strategies that use technology to enhance and improve learning for math and reading curriculums.
- The Department of Public Instruction, Vocational Education, and school improvement initiatives need to continue to pursue ways to incorporate the data they need from existing data sources like PowerSchool and the state on-line reporting system. It is frustrating having to duplicate reports and data that already exist.
- Continue to work with the student information system, PowerSchool, to meet the needs of school districts in the state.

DPI – Chris Kalash addressed the Title II-D Competitive Grants program.

- Applications will be accepted in his office between October 26 and December 10, 2004
- Only districts that have not received these funds before are eligible to apply for this grant
- Schools which have received Title II-D grant money within the past two years are asked to submit budgets for continuing the projects/activities during the past two years.
- Continuing grant monies may be awarded for:

- Professional development
- Annual licenses that were part of the original grant
- Any upgrades to software that were part of the original grant
- Continuation grants are to keep projects funded long enough to assist the school or district to help projects become the way to educate students.

SANS – Tom Eberle, expressed his gratitude to the ETC for providing services to the non-public schools. These services include:

- Connection to the Internet and the filtering
- Virus protection
- Email with spam and virus protection

SANS will be meeting this fall. They will be inviting Dan Pullen to attend the meeting to update the group on ETC activities.

NDSESC – Tom Cummings presented comments from the SESC board members regarding ETC services.

Regarding EduTech services:

- Overwhelming support for training opportunities available around the state
- Need more for special education
- Some workshops were too technical for users
- Sendit is working well

Regarding NDIS services:

- Used by alternative school settings
- Used by non-traditional student settings
- Getting better accommodations from the NDIS staff members
- Helpful for students needing credits
- Would like more information on courses/requirements

Regarding technology of interest to special education administrators

- Video conferencing 14
- Assistive technology 9
- ORS data system 8
- PowerSchool 6
- Palm 6
- Internet research 2
- Digital cameras 2
- E-mail 1
- Scanners 1

Regarding additional issues for training:

- Short, half day sessions
- PowerPoint training
- Windows XP training
- Tools for working with data

EduTech – From her written report, Jody French highlighted the large number of EduTech workshops, the high level of PowerSchool support that EduTech is providing, and Title II-D technology projects which includes time intensive tech assessments.

She expressed concern about the large amount of EduTech staff time used to support PowerSchool at the detriment of other EduTech services. She welcomed suggestions from the council in resolving this dilemma.

NDIS – Neil Howe presented the NDIS report. The enrollment and collection figures are good. Neil anticipates that expenditures will go down during the next biennium. The NDIS budget request \$760,700 for the 2005-2007 biennium was presented.

The 2003-2004 NDIS Annual Report was distributed to the Council. Neil highlighted

- the number of site licenses purchased
- the number of 2004 Division graduates
- The number of honorary graduates
- The list of schools with no division enrollments

Director's Report – Dan Pullen highlighted the following:

- The work of the DPI Data Collection Advisory Committee. Dan Pullen and Lisa Feldner are members of this committee. The committee is moving toward streamlining the data collection and reporting process state-wide.
- The E-Rate status. Changes in accounting practices has significantly delayed sending funding approval letters, which in turn has delayed reimbursing providers. There is legislation currently in the US Senate to release the funding. DCN, the major carrier for North Dakota, has fortunately not demanded payment for the E-Rate portion of the service. Curt Wolfe has legislative authority to spend up to one million dollars to defray the connectivity costs.
- The updated 2005-2007 biennium budget request information. Some of the grant categories were eliminated reflecting the council's recommendations for more flexibility in using the ETC "Grants to Schools."

Wayne Kutzer demonstrated the ImagineND Resource Kit. This interactive program is an effort to raise youth awareness of the many career opportunities available in North Dakota. This kit is available free to all North Dakota studies teachers.

Wayne Sanstead announced that he is assigning Anita Decker to join the ETC as his designee. She will begin attending the meeting in February 2005.

The next meeting is set for February 3, 2005 from 10:00 to 3:00 at the Hughes Administration Building, Bismarck Public Schools.

Kevin Keenaghan adjourned the meeting at 2:45 PM.

Minutes submitted by Deborah Janzen.